Dear \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,

First, I want to thank you for being a huge part of my life and for walking with me and guiding me in my relationship with Christ. There are not enough words or emotions just to show or tell you how grateful I am. Secondly, I want to share with you an amazing opportunity God has presented me with for this summer. God has been working in my life over the past few years, and called me, as He has called all of us in His Word, to be obedient to His calling, to go and serve and make disciples of all nations. I have to be honest and say that I have tried to ignore His call, but He did not give up on me, and He kept pushing. I finally recognized His urgency and surrendered to Him, and cannot believe where He has taken me in these last few years; it really is mind blowing and places I never would have imagined!

As you know I recently graduated from college with my degree in health and physical education, a teaching degree, never would I thought that! I have also been very involved in my home church. I am teaching 9th grade girls Sunday school, have helped with Wednesday night youth group activities, as well as other student activities and retreats, sports camp and vacation Bible school. I have also been greatly involved in our recreation department’s basketball program in coaching a 3-4 year old team and volunteering. I am constantly amazed at how He is using me to serve Him and glorify His Kingdom. It is all for His name and glory!

As for this summer, He has again presented me with an opportunity to serve Him on the mission field through the International Sports Federation (ISF). ISF sends out teams throughout the year to various countries all over the globe using sports as an avenue to minister and present the gospel to the people of that country. God has placed on my heart to serve on a project to Kenya, Africa. I will be part of a team that will be conducting the fifth annual Vacation Bible School, which will include teaching Bible stories, crafts, singing/dancing and sports. We will also be spending time in a local orphanage, just hanging out with the children, loving on them and sharing the great news of Jesus Christ with everyone we come in contact with. The team will consist of approximately 18 volunteers, and we will be on the mission field from July 12th to 28th.

Above all else, I want to ask for your prayers for us while we are in Kenya serving God and making Him known to the people we will come in contact with. I have attached a prayer commitment card in this letter, and would please ask for your commitment to pray for us in the coming months leading up to the trip and especially the time we are on the mission field. There is a strong sense of comfort knowing that there will be people I know and love back home praying for God’s work to be done on this trip.

In addition to prayer, I have a financial need for this trip. The total cost for the trip is $2600. This cost includes airfare, food, travel, lodging, and all other expenses while on the trip. Any way that you are able to help is greatly appreciated. The ISF is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. All donations are potentially tax deductible. I ask that you pray about what God would have you do, and if you are willing to give, I have attached the necessary steps you will need to take. I know that some of you may not be able to support me financially, and believe me your prayers are a much greater benefit to me and the team.

Thank you so much, in advance, for your prayers and support through out this journey. This adventure would not be possible without your continued prayers. I am very excited to see what God has in store for me on this trip. I am asking Him to break me and mold me into a follower of Him, and to show those I come in contact with on this trip who He is. I look forward to sharing with you how He worked through us when I return.

Resting In His Endless Grace,

Shannon